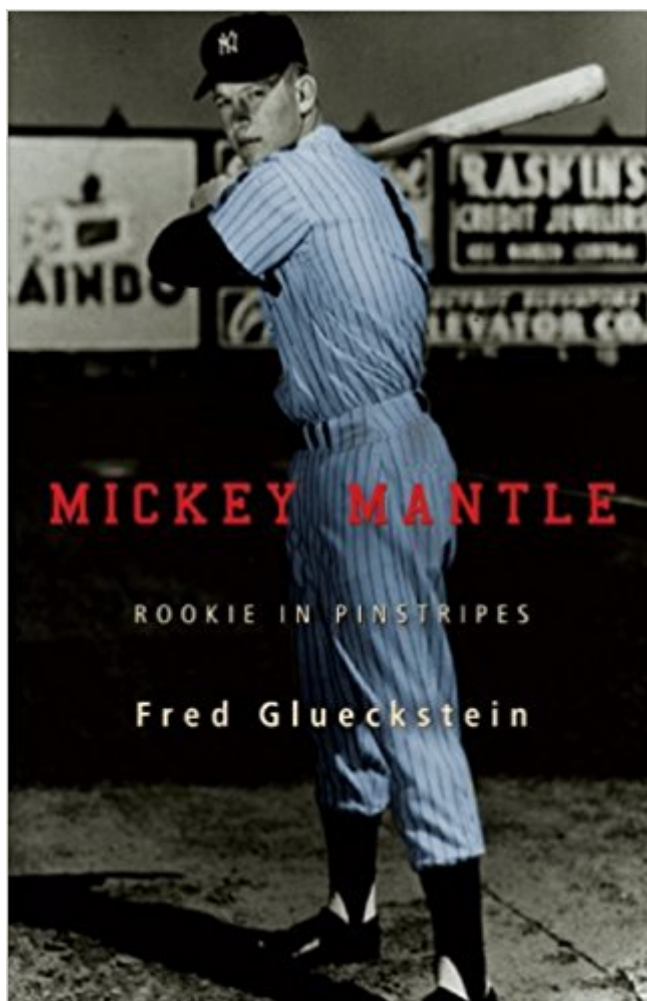




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MICKEY MANTLE: ROOKIE IN PINSTripES



Synopsis

Major League Baseball's Opening Day, 1951. Nineteen-year-old Mickey Mantle puts on the New York Yankees' famous white pinstriped uniform. His stomach roils. Sweat beads his brow. Today is his first major league game in front of a near-capacity crowd at Yankee Stadium, and there is one man Mickey doesn't want to disappoint above all others: his father. Mickey Mantle: Rookie in Pinstripes is the uplifting true story of how a painfully shy teenager from rural Commerce, Oklahoma, became one of the biggest stars in Major League Baseball. While he looked to Joe DiMaggio for inspiration and dreamed of someday playing with that great New York Yankee, Mickey's true hero was his dad. Raised during the Depression, Mickey learned how to catch, hit, and field the ball from his father, Elvin. In high school, Mickey suffered a football injury that revealed a serious bone disorder. He wondered if he would ever play baseball again. But with the support and love of his father, he overcame his affliction and signed with the New York Yankees in 1949. A moving story of Mickey's early years in baseball, from his difficult rookie season to his triumphant return in 1951, Mickey Mantle portrays the everlasting bond between father and son and the making of one of baseball's greatest legends.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Fred Glueckstein, a columnist and nonfiction author of *The '27 Yankees* and *Of Men, Women, and Horses*, was a finalist for the Army Historical Foundation's Distinguished Writing Award in 2006. Raised in the Bronx, he lives with his wife, Eileen, in Sykesville, Maryland. They have two children, Brian and Debra.

Since I live in his home town, our library contains several books about this phenom. I consider this a good introduction to his accomplishments and an excellent gift for young baseball players

Outstanding book. Provides a lot of great information about Mickey Mantle, his life as a 19 year old superstar in New York City, and some of the other great players of that era. Great message for young people to never give up and work hard to achieve your dreams.

If you liked Mantle, you will like this book. It has a lot of information about Mantle that is not common information. I bought this for a fan of Mantle, and he was surprised about so much that he had never known about Mantle.

Everyone who is a Mickey Mantle fan should read this book. It is informative and it is interesting to take a close look at Mickey Mantle's rookie season. It is a quick read and easy to get through.

Though I'm a diehard Red Sox fan, I'm a baseball fan first. So when *Mickey Mantle: Rookie In Pinstripes* came my way it was a must-read, and what a fascinating book it is. Picture it -- a nineteen-year-old kid from Oklahoma signing a contract with the legendary New York Yankees, shaking the alkaline dust of the zinc mines off his cleats to live every boy's dream. What a uniquely American adventure! Mickey's father, Elvin Mantle, worked tirelessly on his oldest son's baseball training, insisting that he bat from both sides of the plate. Everybody loves a switch-hitter, and if that boy runs like the wind, so much the better. Mickey's natural sports ability went beyond baseball: he was a talented football player in high school, though his career in that sport was marred by severe osteomyelitis after he was kicked in the shin. The osteomyelitis kept him out of the draft; his local draft board called him up three times for an exam, on each occasion finding him 4-F / physically unfit to serve. The 1951 Yankees were a roster of baseball royalty, among them Joe DiMaggio in his last season; Yogi Berra; and Phil Rizzuto. They were managed by the incomparable Casey Stengel. Mickey was thrown into the deep end of this pool -- and into the outfield though he had always been an infielder. A batting slump earned him a mid-season stint in the minors but he was back with the Yankees to help clinch the American League pennant and score his first World Series hit against the National League's New York Giants -- yes, it was a "subway series" in 1951. Besides the fascinating intimate details of the great Mickey Mantle, this little book simply crackles with ballpark atmosphere. Author Fred Glueckstein enlightens us on living and travel arrangements, the financial realities, and Mickey's letters to the girl back home. The play-by-plays bring the games to life. Perfectly pitched at

its young adult audience, "Mickey Mantle: Rookie In Pinstripes" offers readers and fans of all ages the chance to spend an amazing summer with one of our greatest American sports legends. I recommend it highly. Linda Bulger, 2008

The book begins with the excitement following the opening debut of Mickey Mantle. The team line-ups are set forth, as well as the Yankee 5-0 victory. The author has a memorable chapter on Mantle's formative years which traversed the Great Depression. His father, Mutt Mantle, knew that a return to heavy labor in the mines was inevitable for supporting the family. The volume contains a series of memorable black and white pictures. i.e. Mickey with twin brothers Ray, Roy and sister Barbara or the ballplayer with his Uncle Luther Richardson or Mickey #14 basketball player in high school or the ballplayer with the Whiz Kids of Baxter Springs, KS or Mickey with the Joplin Miners or Mickey with his mother or the ballplayer at spring training in Phoenix, AZ or Spring training, Mickey and the coach, Mickey reading or Mickey and the World Series. There is a very extensive bibliography, end note section and index. The book would be a splendid acquisition for the sports enthusiast in your house.

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